

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-20 remain in the application, of which claims 1 and 11 are in independent form.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-11, 13, 14 and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over a combination of U.S. Patent No. 6,147,714 (*Terasawa*), U.S. Patent No. 6,340,997 (*Borseth*) and U.S. Patent No. 5,340,997 (*Roop*).

Claim 1 of the present application recites, *inter alia*, "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number." If there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

The Examiner concedes that the combination of *Terasawa* and *Borseth* does not teach or suggest, for example, a method wherein, if there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

For this limitation, *Roop* is relied upon. *Roop* describes a system designed to "transmit TV schedule data This data is acquired by the regional data processing systems

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and forwarded ... to subscriber units (52) and used to construct [a] database," which can be used to "display a TV schedule for the channels that are received by the user's TV." *Roop* at Abstract.

Roop describes the use of "Reception Groups" to define groups of viewers, such as, for example, "all channels receivable via VHF or UHF antennas in the San Francisco Bay Area," "all channels receivable by subscribers to the TCI Fremont cable system," or "all channels receivable in North America via Home Satellite antenna." In the system of *Roop*, each Reception Group (RG) has a corresponding "Lineup," which is a "list of channels that are received in a particular RG." *Roop* at col. 63, lns. 15-43. Importantly, with the system of *Roop*, "for every RG there is one and only one active Lineup, and for every active Lineup there is one and only one RG." *Id.* at col. 63, lns. 43-46. Thus, for the system described by *Roop*, a viewer will be placed in a particular Reception Group, and, by virtue of being placed in the particular Reception Group, a viewer will have access to a predetermined Lineup of channels.

Roop describes that a "Lineup database" contains a record for each channel in each RG. *See Roop* at col. 68., lns. 6-8. A sample of the data stored in the RG records is shown in TABLE LIX of *Roop* at col. 71, lns. 43-67.

Applicants submit that *Roop* does not cure the deficiencies of *Terasawa* and *Borseth*. For example, *Roop*, taken alone, or in combination with *Terasawa* and *Borseth*, does not teach or suggest "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number" and "in case of conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin, giving preference to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

Claim 1 of the present application recites a method wherein if there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

In stark contrast, *Roop* describes as system wherein a receiver falls into a predetermined Reception Group (RG), which has a corresponding predetermined Lineup of channels. Thus, a receiver of *Roop* would not encounter a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin," and would not have the opportunity to determine a preference to be given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference," because a receiver of *Roop* would be connected to a designated Reception Group (RG) having a corresponding predetermined Lineup of channels associated with it.

As described in the specification as filed of the present application at page 3, lines 28-31, while present channel assignment systems "may work well for one country taken alone[,] problems arise when services can be received from neighboring countries, because these services are likely to have logical_channel_numbers conflicting with the ones used in the country where the receiver is used." The invention recited by claim 1 addresses this problem by way of a method that includes receiving broadcast signals from different countries at the same time and assigning channel numbers using country of origin information. Thus, as described in the specification as filed at page 4, lines 23-25, "[t]his overcomes the problem of resolving the conflicts between logical channel numbers transmitted from different countries."

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Accordingly, as described above, *Roop*, taken alone, or in combination with *Terasawa* and *Borseth* does not teach or suggest the combination of features recited by claim 1 of the present application, including, "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number" and "in case of conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin, giving preference to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, claim 1 is deemed to distinguish patentably over any hypothetical *Roop-Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

Claims 3, 4 and 6-10 depend from claim 1, that has been previously discussed and is believed to be allowable, and further narrow and define that claim. Therefore, at least for these reasons, claims 3-4 and 6-10 are also believed to be allowable over any *Roop-Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

Claim 11, while different in scope than claim 1, has been amended to recite a receiver having many of the features described above with respect to amended claim 1. For example, amended claim 11 recites "that in case of conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin, preference is secondarily given to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference" which feature, as described above, is not described or taught, nor is motivation provided for the claimed combination of features by any *Roop-Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

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Accordingly, for at least these reasons, claim 11 is deemed to distinguish patentably over any hypothetical *Roop-Terasawa-Borseth* combination combination.

Claims 13, 14 and 16-20 depend from claim 11, that has been previously discussed and is believed to be allowable, and further narrow and define that claim. Therefore, at least for these reasons, claims 13, 14 and 16-20 are also believed to be allowable over any *Roop-Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

Claims 5 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Terasawa*, *Borseth*, *Roop* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,272,343 (*Pon*).

Pon does not cure the deficiencies of *Terasawa*, *Borseth* and *Roop*. *Pon* describes prioritizing signals according to signal strength. (*Pon* at col. 13, lns. 25-50). *Pon*, either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references, does not describe resolving conflicts of signals from different countries. Specifically, *Pon*, either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references, does not teach, describe, or provide motivation for "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number," and, if there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference," as recited by claim 1, nor does *Pon* either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references teach, describe, or provide motivation for "that in case of conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second county of origin, preference is secondarily given to the

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broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference" as recited by claim 11.

Claims 5 and 15 depend from claims 1 and 11 respectively, that have been previously discussed and are believed to be allowable, and further narrow and define that claim. Therefore, at least for these reasons, claims 5 and 15 are also believed to be allowable over any *Terasawa-Borseth-Roop-Pon* combination.

Thus, applicants submit that each of the claims of the present application are patentable over each of the references of record, either taken alone, or in any proposed hypothetical combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections to the claims is respectfully requested.

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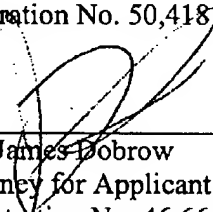
Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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